

Addendum No. 2 to the
Mitigated Negative Declaration for the
7th Standard Pipeline Project



Prepared for:

Buena Vista Water
Storage District

January 2023

State Clearinghouse
No. 2018091030

Prepared by:



Consulting
Engineers and
Scientists

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Project No. 2204252

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

BMPs	Best Management Practices
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNDDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
District	Buena Vista Water Storage District
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
GEI	GEI Consultants, Inc.
GHG	greenhouse gas emissions
IS	Initial Study
MMRP	Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
ND	Negative Declaration
No.	number
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PM2.5	particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 2.5 micrometers
PM10	particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 10 micrometers
Project	7th Standard Pipeline Project
Project refinements	installation of 4.5 miles of pipeline as two separate segments, referred to as Corn Camp and Palomas pipeline.
SJVAPCD	San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
SJVAB	San Joaquin Valley Air Board
SPAL	Small Project Analysis Level
SSJVIC	Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center
Tribe	Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Tribe
U.S.	United States
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Buena Vista Water Storage District (District), as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA),¹ publicly distributed the Initial Study/proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the 7th Standard Pipeline Project (Project)² on September 14, 2018 for a 30-day public review period (State Clearinghouse Number [No.] 2018091030). The District adopted the MND and a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) and approved the Project at its District Board meeting on October 17, 2018. The IS/MND addressed the construction of approximately 12 miles of buried pipe, up to 36 inches in diameter, beginning near the intersection of Milan Road and Imperial Street and terminating 0.5 mile north of State Route 58. The 7th Standard Pipeline Project was designed to conserve and improve the overall efficiency of water and energy use by (1) reducing canal seepage by converting 3,381 acres of irrigated farmland being served by unlined canals to being served by pipelines, and (2) developing a year-round irrigation system, which would reduce groundwater pumping.

In August 2020, the District prepared Addendum No. 1 to the MND to address minor technical changes or additions to the proposed Project for the installation of 2 miles of pipeline, extending from the west end of the existing 7th Standard Pipeline along Main Drain Road, crossing under two additional canals and through agricultural land, and continuing along the northern side of Dargatz Road before connecting to the Belridge Pipeline. The District's Board of Directors approved Addendum No. 1 in September 2020 (Resolution 4396).

The District has now prepared Addendum No. 2 to the MND to address minor technical changes or additions to the 7th Standard Pipeline for the installation of 4.5 miles of pipeline in two separate segments, referred to as the Corn Camp and Palomas pipelines (hereafter referred to as Project refinements). The Corn Camp pipeline connects to the 7th Standard Pipeline at Corn Camp Road, replacing the Corn Camp Ditch, for approximately 1.8 miles, then north along the Eighty-foot Ditch for approximately 0.6 mile to the intersection at the Main Drain Canal. The Palomas pipeline connects to the 7th Standard Pipeline at the Eighty-foot Ditch with two legs, one extending north along Canal Road and the other connecting to existing conveyance at Buttonwillow Drive.

CEQA Guidelines Section 15164(b) states that an addendum to an adopted Negative Declaration (ND) (or MND) may be prepared if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary and none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for the preparation of a subsequent Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or ND have occurred. The District has determined that the Project refinements are necessary,

¹ CEQA is found at California Public Resources Code, Sections 21000 et seq., and the State CEQA Guidelines are found at California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15000 et seq.

² Buena Vista Water Storage District. 2018 (October). *Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Buena Vista Water Storage District*. State Clearinghouse No. 2018091030. Available: <https://www.bvh2o.com/Projects.html>. Accessed: July 7, 2020.

but none of the conditions described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 (*see* Section 1.2 – Regulatory Context, below) requiring preparation of a subsequent EIR (or subsequent ND or subsequent MND) would occur with the minor project changes. Therefore, the District has prepared this Addendum No. 2 to the Project MND in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15164.

1.2 Regulatory Context

As described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a), when an EIR has been certified or ND adopted for a project, no subsequent EIR shall be prepared for that project unless the lead agency determines, on the basis of substantial evidence in the light of the whole record, one or more of the following:

- 1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or ND due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects
- 2) Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is undertaken which will require major revisions of the previous EIR or ND due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effects
- 3) New information of substantial importance, which was not known and could not have been known with the exercise of reasonable diligence at the time the previous EIR was certified as complete or the ND was adopted, shows any of the following:
 - a) The project will have one or more significant effects not discussed in the previous EIR or ND
 - b) Significant effects previously examined will be substantially more severe than shown in the previous EIR
 - c) Mitigation measures or alternatives previously found not to be feasible would in fact be feasible, and would substantially reduce one or more significant effects of the project, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative
 - d) Mitigation measures or alternatives which are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous EIR would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the environment, but the project proponents decline to adopt the mitigation measure or alternative

CEQA Guidelines Section 15164(b) states that a lead agency may prepare an addendum to an adopted ND (or MND) if only minor technical changes or additions are necessary but none of the conditions described in Section 15162 calling for preparation of a subsequent EIR or ND (or MND) have occurred. The analysis in Section 3 – Environmental Analysis, below, demonstrates based on substantial evidence considering the Project’s administrative record that the proposed changes to the Project would not result in any of the conditions described in Section 15162. Because none of these conditions have occurred, the lead agency shall determine whether to prepare a subsequent ND (or subsequent MND), an addendum, or no further documentation (CEQA Guidelines Section 15162[b]).

The District, as lead agency, has prepared this Addendum No. 2 to the MND, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15164(a), to present the proposed Project changes, to provide the additional CEQA

impact analysis, to address the potential environmental effects of the proposed Project changes, and to supplement the administrative record for the Project.

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2. Project Refinements

2.1 Extending the 7th Standard Pipeline

The Project refinements include the installation of 4.5 miles of pipeline, as two separate segments known as Palomas and Corn Camp, located within the District’s service area in Kern County, California (**Figure 2-1**). The Corn Camp pipeline connects to the 7th Standard Pipeline at Corn Camp Road, replacing the Corn Camp Ditch, for approximately 1.8 miles, then north along the Eighty-foot Ditch for approximately 0.6 mile to the intersection at the Main Drain Canal. The Palomas pipeline connects to the 7th Standard Pipeline at the Eighty-foot Ditch with two legs, one extending north along Canal Road and the other connecting to existing conveyance at Buttonwillow Drive. Both pipelines will replace ageing water infrastructure and improve water conveyance throughout the District (**Figures 2-2 and 2-3**). Construction activities will consist of the installation of either 30-inch-diameter or 36-inch-diameter high density polyethylene pipeline installed by excavating open trenches with a maximum construction corridor width of 50 feet. The trench would be dug to a maximum of 6 feet wide and 6.5 feet deep. Equipment and material staging would primarily occur along existing access corridors and other disturbed areas, such as along canals, roadways, and agricultural field margins. Vegetation removal would occur as needed within the 50-foot-wide corridor. The total area in which Project activities (trenching, grading, clearing and grubbing, storage, and access) would occur is approximately 27.3 acres.

Construction should take approximately 7 months and is expected to begin during spring 2024. Construction would be limited to daylight hours, 10 hours per day, 5 days per week. Anticipated construction equipment includes one each – excavator, loader, backhoe, welding truck, and three pickup trucks. Work is anticipated to generally progress from east to west, although construction would also be influenced by the irrigation schedule. Sections of the pipeline that are adjacent to canals would be installed when the canals are not full of water, to avoid water seeping into the construction area. Construction activities would begin at the eastern terminus and would continue west along Del Fern Road. Once the pipeline segments are fused together and placed in the trench, the trench would then be backfilled. The Palomas Pipeline will be connected to the 7th Standard Pipeline installed along the alignment of the Garden Ditch. Corn Camp pipeline will also be connected to the 7th Standard Pipeline installed along the alignment of the Corn Camp Ditch.

Figure 2-1. Regional Location Map

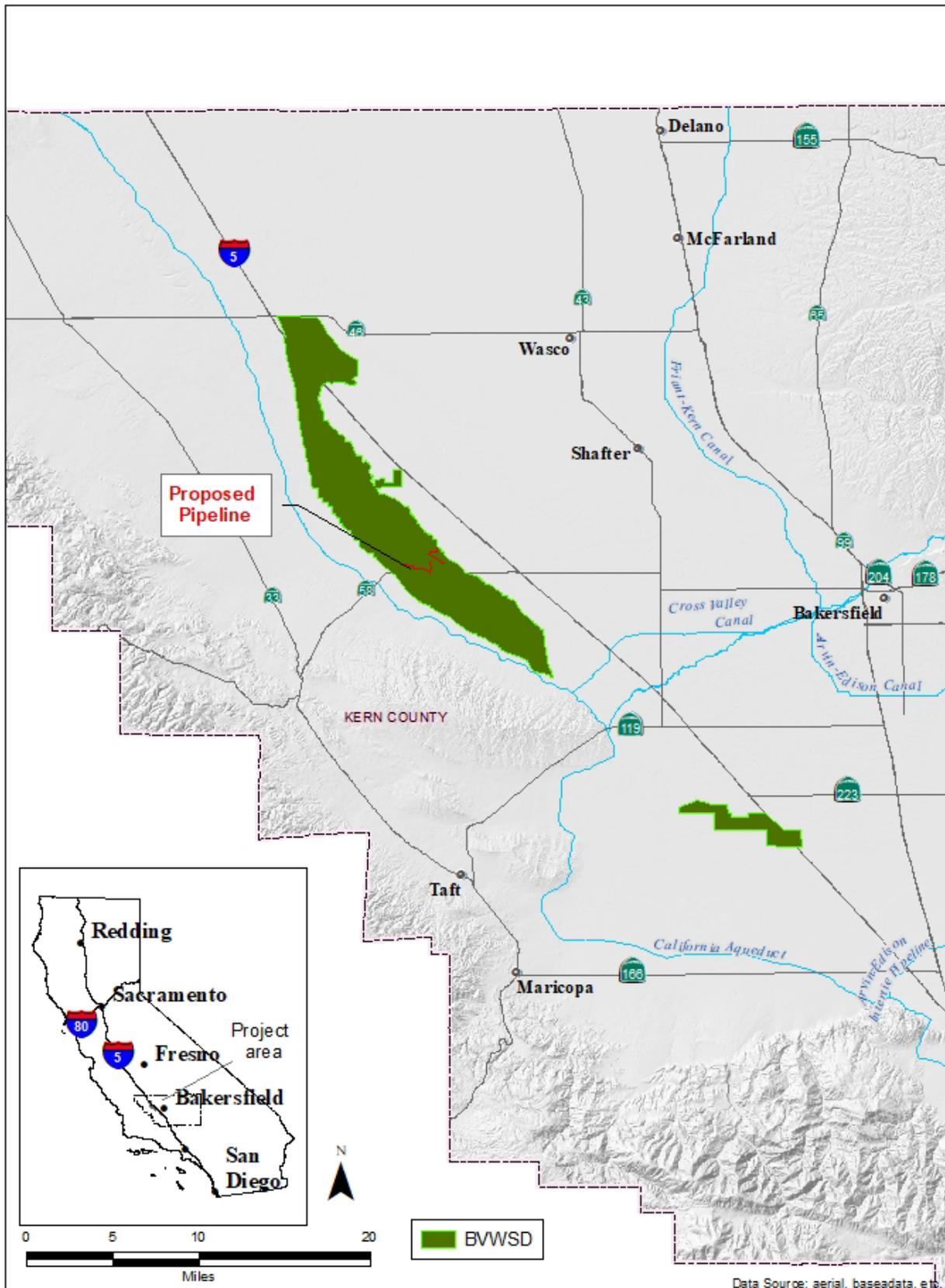


Figure Source: GEI Consultants, Inc.2023. \\NORE-pzcc-1\NORE-DATA\Projects\Buena Vista\Project.2204252 Buena Vista Pipeline Addendum\GIS\Regional_Location.mxd 06Jan2023 XXX

Figure 2-2. Project Location Overview Map

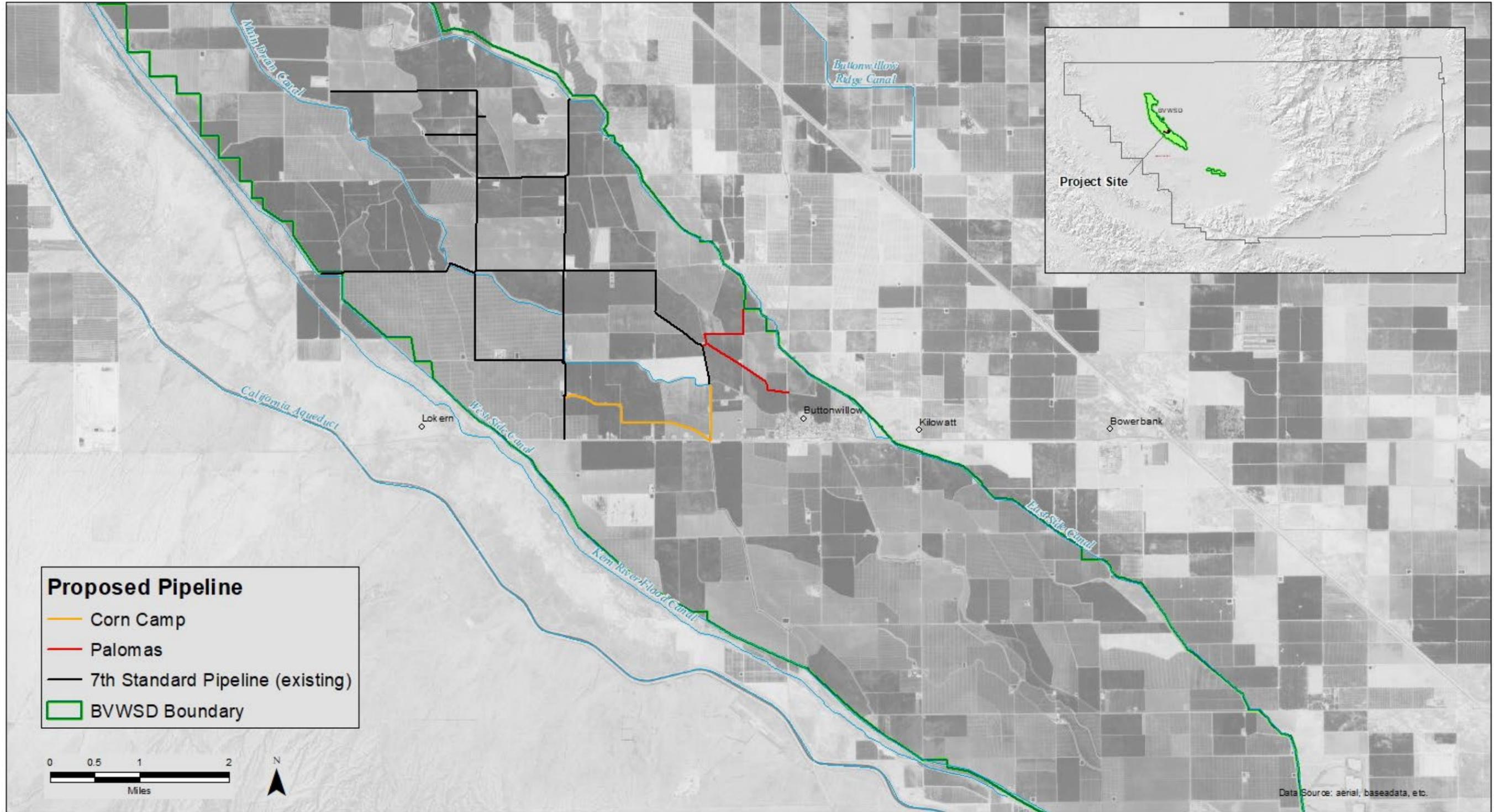
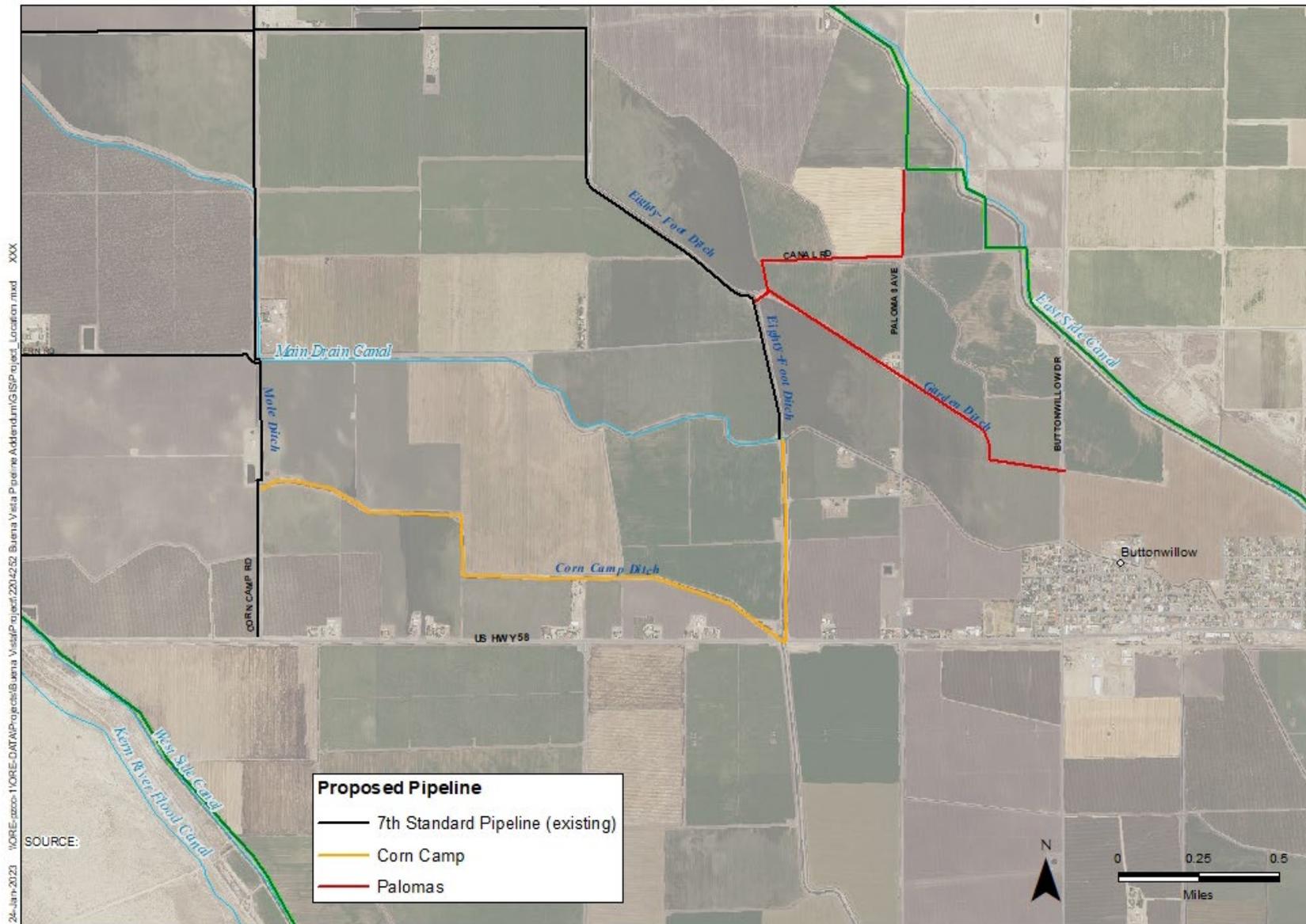


Figure Source: GEI Consultants, Inc. 2023.

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Figure 2-3. Project Location Map



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3. Environmental Analysis

This section of the addendum analyzes the potential effects on the physical environment from implementation of the Project refinements. This analysis has been prepared to determine whether any of the conditions in CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 (described in Section 1.2 – Regulatory Context) would occur as a result of the Project refinements.

The Project refinements would not cause any new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of significant effects previously identified in the IS/MND for the resource areas listed below, and/or would not be affected to any greater degree than that analyzed in the IS:

- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Mineral Resources
- Population, Housing, and Employment
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

The following resource areas may be affected by the proposed Project refinements and are analyzed below:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Transportation and Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources

3.1 Aesthetics

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 1, “Aesthetics.” The IS/MND evaluated impacts to visual quality from use of large construction equipment adjacent to agricultural land for activities including trenching, grading, and clearing vegetation. During construction, several vehicles and equipment would be onsite which could impact scenic views; however, this is not substantially different than normal agricultural operations. Additionally, the pipeline would be buried underground, and as such would not be visible once construction have been completed. Following the completion of construction activities all construction related equipment would be removed and the site would be restored to pre-construction conditions. Therefore, changes to visual quality would be short-term and the visual character of the area would remain consistent with existing conditions. This impact would remain less than significant.

3.2 Agriculture and Forestry Resources

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 2, “Agriculture and Forestry Resources.” The Project refinements would include burying pipe within agricultural roads and would not remove agricultural lands from production. Additionally, there is no forest land within the vicinity of where the Project refinements would be implemented. Therefore, there would be no impact to agriculture and forest resources.

3.3 Air Quality

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in the IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 3, “Air Quality.” The IS/MND evaluated construction-related emissions associated with the trenching, grading, and vegetation clearing. As discussed in the IS/MND, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) has published guidance on assessing construction projects to determine if they fall below the Small Project Analysis Level (SPAL) threshold (Marjolle & Barber 2012) of 18,000 horsepower hours (hp-hr) per day. The proposed Project would generate approximately 7,710 hp-hr per day during pipeline installation, well below the SPAL threshold.

Daily emissions from Project activities estimated would occur between March and June 2024. The Project refinements would generate a small number of additional emissions from use of two excavators, one loader, one forklift, one welding truck, three pickup trucks, and up to 10 worker trips per day. The Project refinements would require approximately 25 round trips to drop off all required materials and equipment to the Project site. Additionally, Project refinements would require 700 worker trips for the installation of the pipeline. These additional emissions would not overlap daily emissions estimated for the Project in the IS/MND. Therefore, emissions estimated from the Project refinements are significantly lower than the threshold and would not substantially increase annual emissions. As mentioned in the IS/MND, the District would spray water to keep dust to minimal levels during construction. Therefore, this impact would remain less than significant.

The San Joaquin Valley Air Basin is currently designated as being in nonattainment for the federal and state ambient air quality standards for ground-level ozone, particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 2.5 micrometers (PM_{2.5}), as well as state standards for particulate matter with aerodynamic diameter less than 10 micrometers (PM₁₀). Past, present, and future development projects contribute to the region's adverse air quality impacts on a cumulative basis. The Project would not exceed SJVAPCD's annual emissions thresholds and the Project refinements, as discussed above, would not substantially contribute to a cumulatively considerable increase in annual emissions from the Project. Therefore, the Project with the Project refinements would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of applicable air quality plans because it would not violate any air quality standard and would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the Project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. This impact would remain less than significant and no new additional mitigation measures are required.

During construction, most of the particulate matter (PM), emissions are released in the form of fugitive dust during ground disturbance activities. PM emissions are also generated in the form of equipment exhaust and re-entrained road dust from vehicle travel. Impacts from PM emissions would be temporary and would go back to normal after completing the construction phase. Given the short-term emissions, distance from sensitive receptors impacts would be less-than-significant. Therefore, impact conclusions identified in the IS/MND remain the same, and no new mitigation measures have been identified.

3.4 Biological Resources

GEI Consultants, Inc. (GEI) reviewed the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) (CDFW 2022) and the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) online Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California (CNPS 2022). These reviews were centered on the Buttonwillow United States (U.S.) Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5- minute quadrangles and included the eight surrounding quadrangles. A list of resources under jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that could occur on or near the Project site was obtained from the Information for Planning and Conservation website (USFWS 2022).

Species reviewed for potential to occur in the Project area were updated to include the temblor legless lizard (*Anniella alexandrae*). It is a limbless lizard endemic to the alkali desert scrub and annual grasslands of the southwestern San Joaquin Valley, east of the Temblor mountains at 551 to 1,529 feet elevation. In October 2020 the Temblor legless lizard was petitioned for federal Endangered Species Act protection. In June 2021 the USFWS determined that the species may qualify for protection (86 FR 32241 32243 USFWS 2021) and is a pending candidate. As of July 1, 2022, the Temblor legless lizard is considered a candidate species under California Endangered Species Act and will therefore receive the same legal protection afforded to an endangered or threatened species.

A field survey of the Project site and adjacent areas was conducted by GEI biologist Devin Barry on November 18, 2022. The survey focused on evaluating potential for special-status species to occur on or adjacent to the Project site and be affected by Project activities. The Project site is the area in which Project activities would occur, including pipeline installation and staging. The CNDDDB USGS 9-quadrangle search yielded occurrences of 53 special-status plants and animals. Twenty of these have been documented within 3 miles of the Project site. However, most of these occurrences are from grassland, saltbush scrub,

and other natural shrub habitats south and west of the Project site. (Note: Not all species tracked in the CNDDDB and included in the search results meet the special-status definition described above.)

The survey results conclude that Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 4, “Biological Resources.” Habitat conditions in the area where the additional pipeline would be installed are consistent with those described in the IS/MND, and all potential impacts on biological resources were identified in the IS/MND. Because the additional pipeline is a relatively small proportion of the overall amount of pipeline associated with the Project, the increase in impact severity would be minor. Therefore, impact conclusions identified in the IS/MND would remain the same, and implementing Mitigation Measures BIO-1a, BIO-1b, and BIO-2 identified in the IS/MND, if applicable, would reduce potentially significant impacts to less than significant.

3.5 Cultural Resources

Under the Project refinements, additional investigations were conducted to determine if the Project refinements might have an impact on cultural resources. The additional investigations included an updated records search and archaeological/built environment pedestrian survey. Background information is provided in the original IS/MND.

GEI archaeologist Amy Wolpert, M.A., submitted a records search request including the Project refinement and a surrounding 0.25-mile-radius at the Southern San Joaquin Valley Information Center (SSJVIC). The records search included a review of SSJVIC’s USGS 7.5-minute topographic base maps indicating previously conducted investigations and previously reported cultural resources, Department of Parks and Recreation 523 forms, and California Historic Landmarks documentation.

A response from the SSJVIC was received on November 14, 2022 (Records Search File No.: 22-422) and stated that three previous investigations had been conducted that had included at least a portion of the Project refinement. The letter also identified one previously identified built environment resource and no archaeological resources within the Project refinement; the identified built environment resource is P-15-017684 (Eighty-foot Ditch).

A pedestrian survey of the Project refinement was conducted on December 5 and 6, 2022. Ground visibility was excellent. No archaeological resources were identified during the pedestrian survey. P-185-017684 was identified during the survey. The resource was photographed and rerecorded. P-15-017684 (Eighty-foot Ditch) was determined ineligible for the NRHP in 2018 (Office of Historic Preservation 2022). It is also not considered a historical resource for the purposes of CEQA.

Although unlikely, there is a possibility that additional cultural resources and/or human remains may be discovered during Project refinement activities. If this were to occur, this occurrence would be consistent with the type and severity of potentially significant impacts that were identified in the IS/MND. The District would implement Mitigation Measures CR-1: *Address Previously Undiscovered Historical Resources, Archaeological Resources, and Tribal Cultural Resources* and CR-2: *Avoid Potential Effects on Undiscovered Burials* which were previously adopted and incorporated into the Project to reduce

impacts on historical, archaeological, or paleontological resources and human remains to a less-than-significant level.

3.6 Energy

The Project refinements would not result any changes to permanent energy use. Therefore, energy use from Project refinements would be limited to use of fuels for short-term, standard operation of construction equipment and vehicles. Emissions associated with use of fuels during construction are analyzed in Section 3.3 – Air Quality and Section 3.8 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions of this addendum. Equipment and vehicle use would occur as specified in Section 2 – Project Refinements, of this addendum, which is typical of similar earthmoving projects, and would be necessary to complete the Project refinements. Due to the temporary nature of energy use during construction, this impact would be less-than-significant.

3.7 Geology and Soils

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 6, “Geology, Soils, and Seismicity” because excavation would occur in the same soil types and gravel material as previously analyzed. Potentially significant impacts were previously identified for construction-related soil erosion. The District would obtain a California State Water Resources Control Board’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater permit for general construction activity (Order 2009-0009-DWQ as amended by Order 2012-006-DWQ) and prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan. Additionally, the Project refinements must be constructed in accordance with the Kern County Grading Code (Kern County 2022a) and District must implement the Kern County NPDES Best Management Practices (BMPs) that are specifically designed for erosion and sediment control. Impacts from construction-related soil erosion remain less-than-significant.

3.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 7, “Greenhouse Gas Emissions.” As discussed in the IS/MND, implementing the proposed Project would generate temporary construction-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Construction emissions would be generated by vehicle engine exhaust from use of heavy-duty construction equipment, haul trips, and construction worker trips and would cease following construction of the Project refinements. As mentioned in the IS/MND, the Valley Air District has adopted the *Guidance for Valley Land-use Agencies in Addressing GHG Emission Impacts for New Projects under CEQA*. Projects complying with an approved GHG emission reduction plan or mitigation program would be determined to have a less than significant impact to atmospheric GHG levels. The District is in compliance with regulations that target the reduction of GHG emissions and regulations adopted by a public agency with jurisdiction.

Project refinements would generate a small number of additional emissions from use of two excavators, one of each – loader, forklift, welding truck, three pickup trucks, and up to five worker trips per day. Since applicable significance thresholds require evaluating GHG emissions on an annual basis, emissions from Project construction to date, which occurred in a previous year, do not need to be considered with

emissions from the Project refinements. Additionally, since the Project is in compliance with regulations that target the reduction of GHG emissions, and the Project refinements would add a small number of new emissions and would not substantially increase annual emissions. Therefore, this impact would remain less than significant.

3.9 Hydrology and Water Quality

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 9, “Hydrology and Water Quality.” During construction, the District will employ standard measures to control erosion and sediment and to protect water quality during construction as required by Kern County’s Grading Code which includes construction standards and *BMPs for Erosion and Sediment Control* (Kern County 2022a). Project refinements would not alter a stream or river, create runoff or add sources of polluted runoff as the pipeline would be buried underground. The Project refinements would not increase the risk of flooding and inundation and would not expose people or structures to a risk of loss.

BMPs outlined in the NPDES permit, which were previously adopted and incorporated into the Project, would reduce all potentially significant impacts from construction-related soil erosion to a less-than-significant level.

3.10 Land Use and Planning

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 10, “Land Use and Planning.” The Project refinements would be implemented along an existing farm road in an area zoned for agriculture. The Project refinements would not impact agricultural production and would not inhibit future use of the land. Therefore, there would be no impact to land use and planning.

3.11 Noise

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 12, “Noise.” Construction noise impacts typically occur when construction activities take place during noise-sensitive times of the day (e.g., early morning, evening, or nighttime hours), when construction activities occur immediately adjacent to noise sensitive land uses, or when construction durations last over extended periods of time. Similar to impacts discussed in the IS/MND, the Project refinements would generate construction noise from equipment operations. The Project refinements would involve only temporary and short-term construction activities and would not introduce permanent sources of noise. The Project refinements would not generate operational noise beyond what was described in the IS/MND. Since the Project refinements would take approximately 40 days to complete, they do not represent a significant increase in the duration that sensitive receptors could be exposed to additional noise from operating equipment.

The Kern County Code of Ordinances (Kern County 2022b) prohibits construction related noise between the hours of 9:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. on weekdays and 9:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. on weekends. All equipment operation associated with the Project refinements would occur only within the hours specified in Kern

County's Code of Ordinances. Therefore, the proposed Project refinements would not violate Kern County's construction noise standards and this impact would remain less than significant.

3.12 Transportation and Traffic

The Project refinements would not result in new significant impacts or increase the severity of significant impacts previously identified in IS/MND Environmental Checklist Section 16 "Transportation and Traffic." The Project refinements would require a total of 25 truck trips to transport material to and from the site. Additionally, the Project refinements would result in 700 truck trips due to worker's commutes. Because construction-generated traffic would be temporary and there would not be any truck trips generated during operations, the Project would not result in any long-term degradation in performance of any of the roadways in the Project vicinity. The additional trips would occur in April and May and would not overlap truck trips estimated for the Project in the IS/MND, as activities analyzed in the IS/MND have already been implemented. Therefore, the Project refinements would not conflict with adopted applicable policies or plans related to the performance of the circulation system. This impact would remain less than significant.

3.13 Tribal Cultural Resources

On December 19, 2022, the District sent a letter to the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians Tribe (Tribe) in accordance with AB 52. In the letter, the District briefly described the purpose of the Project and components of the Project. The letter stated that the Tribe had 30 days to respond if they wanted to be consulted on the Project. The District never received any response from the Tribe. In addition, GEI archaeologist Amy Wolpert, M.A., sent a letter to the Native American Heritage Commission asking for a search of their Sacred Lands File to determine if there were any previously reported Native American resources in the Project area; the results were negative. There are no known Tribal cultural resources within the Project area that would be impacted.

4. Conclusions

As described in the preceding sections, this Addendum No. 2 to the MND adopted in 2018, analyzes the following proposed changes to the Project:

- Installation of 2 segments of pipeline, totaling 4.5 miles

Based on the analysis and substantial evidence in Section 3 – Environmental Analysis, the proposed Project changes described in this addendum would not result in any of the conditions described in Section 15162 of the CEQA Guidelines calling for preparation of a Subsequent EIR, ND, or MND. In summary, the proposed Project changes:

- Would not result in any new significant environmental effects.
- Would not substantially increase the severity of previously identified significant effects.
- Would not result in mitigation measures or alternatives previously found to be infeasible becoming feasible.
- Would not result in availability/implementation of mitigation measures or alternatives that are considerably different from those analyzed in the previous document that would substantially reduce one or more significant effects on the physical environment.

These conclusions confirm that a subsequent MND is not required and this Addendum No. 2 to the MND adopted in 2018, is the appropriate CEQA document under CEQA Guidelines Section 15164 to evaluate the Project changes and resulting environmental impacts thereof. This Addendum No. 2 is added to the administrative record for the Project. No changes are needed to the MND or MMRP adopted in 2018.

5. Literature Cited

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